

Message Text

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64/73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /129 W

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O R 150221Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 124

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 1321

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T - P A R A F O U R

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, XM, MX

SUBJ: CURRENT EXPERTS GROUP THINKING ON STRUCTURE OF MFM ON FINAL DOCUMENT

REF: MEXICO 1289; 1299; 1320 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY - TECHNICAL EXPERT DRAFT GIVEN TO US BY DE LA COLINA THIS AFTERNOON (MEXICO 1320) AND OTHER COMMENTS HE MADE AT THAT TIME ON CONFERENCE'S FINAL DOCUMENT AND ON SPEAKERS RAISE ISSUES STATED BELOW. WE WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS THESE ISSUES WITH PRESIDENT OF EXPERTS GROUP QUIJANO TOMORROW AT LUNCH AND WOULD WELCOME ANY THOUGHTS DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE PRIOR TO THAT TIME.

2. CONFERENCE STRUCTURE NOW BEING PROPOSED PRESENTS TWO QUESTIONS:

A. HOW CAN DISCUSSION OF AGENDA POINTS BE COMPRESSED SO THAT THERE MAY BE AMPLE TIME FOR OVERALL DIALOGUE AND CONSIDERATION BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE CONFERENCE'S FINAL DOCUMENT?

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WHEN WE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN TO DE LA COLINA OVER THIS POINT,

HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO COMPRESS DISCUSSION OF EIGHT POINTS TO EXTENT THAT THERE COULD BE SOME GENERAL DIALOGUE FRIDAY AFTERNOON. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE EIGHTH POINT IN THE SEQUENCE NOW ENVISAGED, IN ANY EVENT, COVERED GENERAL US/LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS. MOREOVER, HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE AN EVENING WORK SESSION ON FRIDAY IF GENERALLY DESIRED. (THIS PRESUMABLY WOULD REQUIRE CANCELLING DINNER RABASA IS SCHEDULED GIVE THAT EVENING).

B. DE LA COLINA SAYS THAT THE EXPERTS DRAFT AS IT NOW STANDS GIVES SECRETARY KISSINGER THE CHOICE OF DISCUSSING JUST THE FIRST EIGHT AGENDA POINTS IN HIS FIRST PRESENTATION IN CLOSED SESSION OR ALL TEN. IT OCCURS TO US THAT DISCUSSION OF ALL TEN POINTS IN HIS FIRST PRESENTATION COULD SAVE TIME AND ALSO PROVIDE A WAY OF PUTTING THE LATIN AMERICAN AGENDA ITEMS IN A WORLD CONTEXT.

3. BOTH THE GENERAL SUBSTANCE OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT AND THE MODUS OPERANDI OF THE WORKING GROUP WHICH WOULD PRODUCE A DRAFT WERE DISCUSSED IN THIS AFTERNOON'S CONVERSATION WITH DE LA COLINA.

4. ON SUBSTANCE, WE TOLD DE LA COLINA THAT THE SUGGESTED POINTS TABLED BY MEXICO HAD HIT US LIKE A SHOWER OF COLD WATER. DE LA COLINA WAS ON THE DEFENSIVE AND ASCRIBED LANGUAGE TO YOUNG ECONOMISTS. HE SAID THAT THEY SHOULD BE TAKEN AS THE MOST EXTREME POSITION PRESENTED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WOULD COME IN WITH A MINIMUM POSITION IN OUR FIRST DRAFT. IN FACT, HE ADVISED US TO PRESENT A MINIMUM POSITION AT FIRSTBA WE SAID THAT OUR ATTITUDE, ON THE CONTRARY, WAS TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS WE POSSIBLE COULD AND TO TRY TO SET A POSITIVE TONE BY EMPHASIZING THE PRINCIPLES AND POINTS ON WHICH WE COULD AGREE. IF SUCH A TONE AND FRAMEWORK WERE NOT SET LITTLE WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AND WE WOULD BE HINDERED IN OUR EFFORT TO MOVE FORWARD CONSTRUCTIVELY. DE LA COLINA SAID THAT IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT TO BEGIN WITH STATEMENTS OF THE OVERALL PRINCIPLES ON WHICH WE AGREED, BUT AFTER THAT THE LATIN AMERICANS WOULD NOT BE CONTENT IF THEY DID NOT STATE THEIR POSITIONS EVEN IF WE COULD NOT AGREE WITH THEM. WE MIGHT RESPOND TO THOSE POSITIONS BY STATEMENTS IN THE DOCUMENT THAT WE

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UNDERSTOOD THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AND THAT WE ALL AGREED THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FURTHER IN SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS OR IN OTHER FORUMS. WE POINTED OUT THAT AT LEAST TWO FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES HAD OCCURRED WHICH MEANT THAT THE HEMISPHERE SHOULD NOT NOW BE THOUGHT OF AS BEING DIVIDED ON US/LATIN AMERICAN LINES. ONE WAS THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS NO LONGER THE ONLY ASSISTANCE PROVIDER. MEXICO, BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA WERE PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND VENEZUELA WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE A LARGE

PROVIDER IN THE FUTURE. THE OTHER WAS THAT THE SCARCE PRODUCTS ISSUE WOULD BE INCREASINGLY UPON US AND DID NOT DIVIDE ALONG JUST DC - LDC LINES. THEREFORE, IT MADE SENSE TO US NOT TO MENTION SPECIFIC COUNTRIES BY NAME IN THE FIRST DRAFT, BUT RATHER TO REFER TO THEM BY CATEGORIES, AS, FOR INSTANCE, THE WEALTHIER COUNTRIES AND THE COUNTRIES HAVING SUPPLIES OF SCARCE MATERIALS OR PRODUCTS. DE LA COLINA THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT THE FINAL DOCUMENT, DE LA COLINA SAID THAT THE IDEA WAS TO HAVE FOUR OR FIVE LATIN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AND THE US ON AN OVERALL DRAFTING GROUP WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THE MAIN OUTLINE OF THE DOCUMENT AND SUB-GROUPS TO DEAL WITH SPECIFIC ITEMS MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRIES MOST CONCERNED WITH THESE ITEMS. THE WORKING GROUPS ON THE FINAL DOCUMENT COULD START AS SOON AS A UNITED STATES FIRST DRAFT WAS READY TO "MARRY" WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN FIRST DRAFT THAT WAS BEING DEVELOPED. THIS MIGHT START NEXT MONDAY, NEXT WEDNESDAY OR NEXT THURSDAY, JUST AS THE UNITED STATES WISHED.

6. DE LA COLINA INDICATED THAT IT NOW LOOKED AS THOUGH VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA OF COLOMBIA WOULD BE THE LATIN AMERICAN SPOKESMAN AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION AS FACIO HAD WITHDRAWN IN HIS FAVOR, AND THE FACT THAT ARGENTINA ALREADY HAD PRESIDENCY OF PRESENT TECHNICAL MEETING WOULD COUNT AGAINST VIGNES' ASPIRATIONS. IT ALSO SEEMED CERTAIN THAT GIBSON BARBOZA (BRAZIL) WOULD BE GIVEN THE IMPORTANT TASK OF MAKING A FINAL SUMMING-UP SPEECH AT CLOSING SESSION.

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